

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 4-15 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 13 are amended to incorporate the subject matter recited in claims 2 and 3. Claims 2 and 3 are canceled.

Claims 8 and 12 are amended for better clarity, as the Examiner requested. See the specification at, for example, paragraph [0038]. Claims 14 and 15 are added to recite additional features disclosed in the specification at, for example, paragraph [0029].

The title and the Abstract are amended, as the Examiner requested.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Applicants thank Examiner Patidar for the courtesy extended to Applicants' representative, Mr. Luo, during the March 23, 2006 personal interview. The substance of the personal interview is incorporated in the following remarks.

The Office Action objects to the title, the Abstract and claims 8 and 12. The title, the Abstract and claims 8 and 12 are amended, as outlined above. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objections to the title, to the Abstract and to claims 8 and 12 is respectfully requested.

The subject matter recited in claim 12 is fully supported in the specification. For example, as discussed during the personal interview, the subject matter of the "wherein" clause is described in the specification at, for example, paragraphs [0031], [0037] and [0038].

The Office Action rejects claims 1-13 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,541,859 to Inoue et al. ("Inoue"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1, as amended, recites a magnetic rotation detector that determines a distance between apparent positions of magnetic bodies on the basis of a product of an interval of generation of noise in an output signal and a rotational speed of a magnetic rotor at the time of generation of noise. Claim 13, as amended, recites similar features. Inoue does not disclose or suggest these features.

In particular, Inoue discloses determining whether the numbers of output signals occurring in one complete revolution of a rotor are changed or reduced. See col. 18, lines 61-65. Inoue does not disclose or suggest determining a distance between apparent positions of magnetic bodies. Thus, Inoue does not disclose or suggest determining a distance between apparent positions of magnetic bodies on the basis of a product of an interval of generation of noise in an output signal and a rotational speed of the magnetic rotor at the time of the generation of noise, as recited in claims 1 and 13.

Furthermore, Inoue discloses detecting abnormality based on a ratio between two signal periods. See col. 18, lines 35-50. Inoue does not disclose or suggest determining a distance on the basis of a product of an interval and a rotational speed. Therefore, Inoue does not disclose or suggest determining a distance between apparent positions of magnetic bodies on the basis of a product of an interval of generation of noise in an output signal and a rotational speed of the magnetic rotor at the time of generation of noise, as recited in claims 1 and 13.

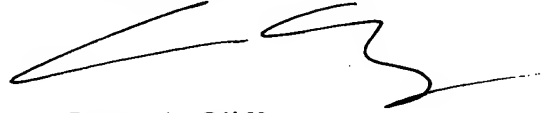
For any or all of the above reasons, Inoue does not disclose each and every element recited in claims 1 and 13. Thus, as agreed to during the personal interview, Inoue does not disclose or suggest the subject matter recited in claims 1 and 13, and claims 4-12 depending therefrom. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1 and 4-13 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) is respectfully requested.

Claims 14 and 15 are patentable at least in view of the patentability of claims 1 and 13, from which they respectively depend, as well as for additional features they recite. For example, Inoue does not disclose or suggest comparing a distance with a value corresponding to a length of an outer periphery of a rotating body, as recited in claims 14 and 15.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1 and 4-15 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:

Abstract
Petition for Extension of Time

Date: April 14, 2006

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